

# REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



**To:** MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**Agenda Item #:** VIII. G.

**From:** Wayne D. Houle, PE, Director of Engineering

**Action** ☒

**Discussion** ☐

**Date:** April 16, 2013

**Information** ☐

**Subject:** Wooddale Avenue Bike Lanes

## Action Requested:

Review funding options to restripe Wooddale Avenue.

## Information / Background:

At the March 19 City Council meeting, staff reviewed different options to restripe the Advisory Bike Lanes along Wooddale Avenue. The City Council asked staff to pursue the option of restriping Wooddale Avenue to a dedicated south bound bike lane from W. 50<sup>th</sup> St. to W. 56<sup>th</sup> St. then "share the road" from W. 56<sup>th</sup> St. to Valley View Road and "share the road" the entire northbound direction. The northbound parking lane would remain; see attached sketch.

The unknown questions at the time were, if the City would jeopardize the federal grant given to the City to install the bike boulevard project and also funding of the restriping. Staff has received word from Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) that this change would not jeopardize the federal grant; see attached email. The question now is, does the City pursue a variance from Municipal State Aid (MSA) Standards to fund restriping the roadway or, does the City fund the restriping internally.

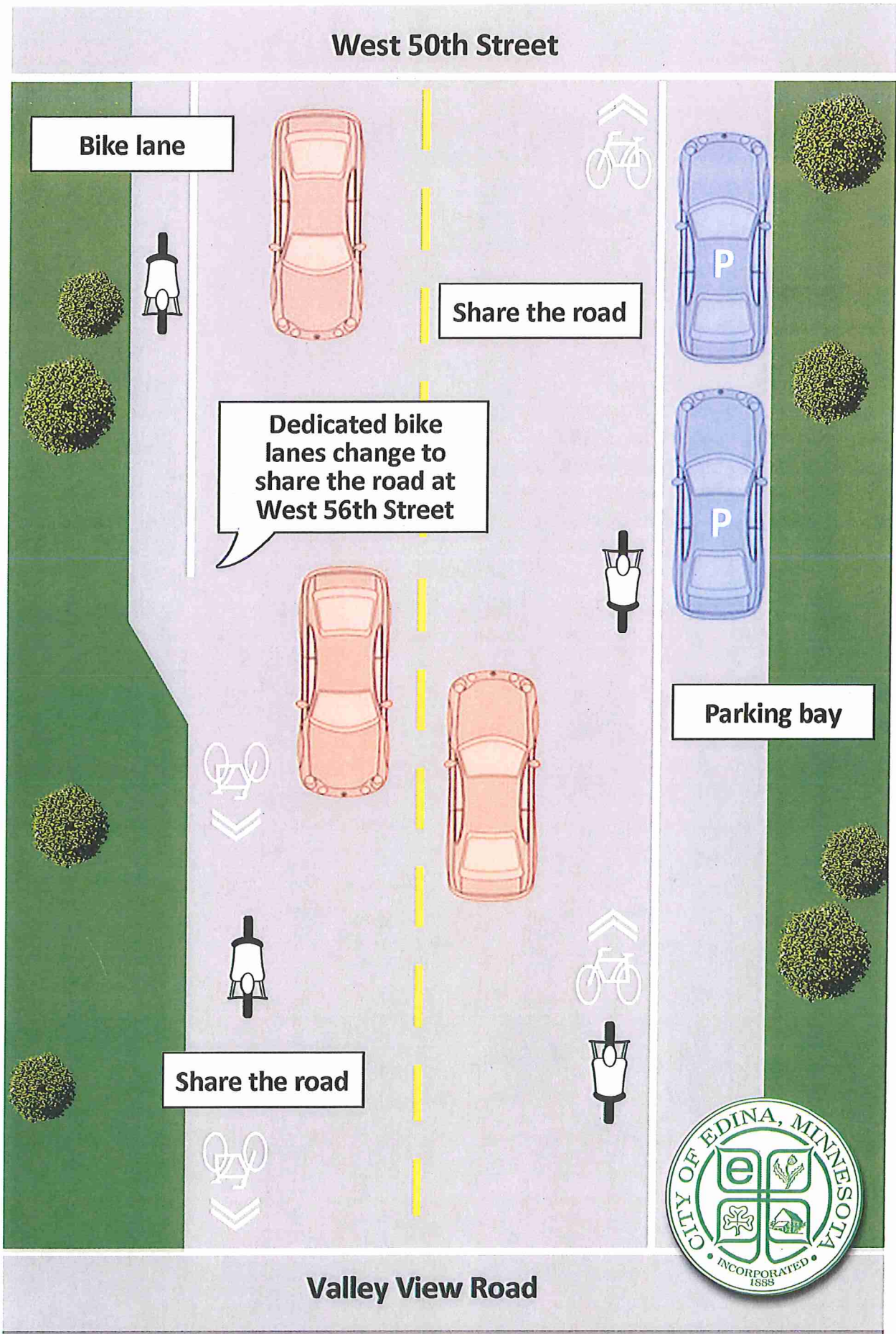
The cost to restripe Wooddale Avenue is approximately \$30,000. The restriping of the roadway is weather dependent. If the project is funded internally, we could potentially have the roadway restriped by the end of May. If the project is funded using MSA funds we will need a variance from MNDOT State Aid Variance Committee and also MSA approval of plans. These required final approvals would not occur until mid-July because the variance committee meets the end of June and the plan approval requires another three weeks for approval.

## Attachments:

Proposed sketch of Wooddale Avenue

Email from MNDOT dated April 11, 2013

Letter to MNDOT from Wayne Houle dated March 25, 2013



**Proposed improvements to Wooddale Avenue  
between West 50th Street and Valley View Road**

**From:** Erickson, Dan (DOT) [<mailto:Dan.Erickson@state.mn.us>]

**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2013 4:07 PM

**To:** Wayne Houle

**Cc:** Schoenecker, Ted (DOT); Mike Anderson ([manderson@alliant-inc.com](mailto:manderson@alliant-inc.com)); Eue, Scott (DOT); Steve Clark ([stevec@tlcminnesota.org](mailto:stevec@tlcminnesota.org)); Joan Pasiuk ([joanp@tlcminnesota.org](mailto:joanp@tlcminnesota.org)); [Timothy.Anderson@dot.gov](mailto:Timothy.Anderson@dot.gov)

**Subject:** RE: Wooddale Avenue Bike Lanes

Wayne – Thank you for your patience in waiting for my reply. In regards to your letter, I had discussions with both the FHWA, Tim Anderson, and TLC, Joan Pasiuk and Steve Clark, because they can more appropriately address your questions.

In response to your first question, the FHWA MnDivision will not request repayment of previously used federal funds as long as the final report for the MUTCD experiment is completed by the City of Edina. Additionally, as the Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program manager, TLC will not require a repayment but expects the City to report on the existing lane configuration as well as the proposed configuration and its operation.

Regarding your second question, TLC stated that they would not be willing to add federal funding for the new lane configuration.

From Metro State Aid's perspective, I'd like to note that if Edina plans to use State Aid funding for the new lane striping it will require a variance from State Aid Rules. Metro State Aid would support such a request if the City wants to pursue one.

Once again, thank you for your patience and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

[dan.erickson@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.erickson@state.mn.us)

Mn/DOT - Metro District State Aid

Federal Aid Engineer

Phone: 651-234-7763

fax: 651-234-7765



March 25, 2013

Mr. Dan Erickson, PE  
Federal Aid Engineer  
MnDOT Metro District  
Office of State Aid  
1500 West County Road B2  
Roseville, MN 55113

RE: Proposed Change to Wooddale Avenue  
SP No. 120-091-002  
City of Edina No. ENG 12-6

Dear Mr. Erickson:

The Edina City Council has requested that staff pursue a change to the above stated project. The proposal changes the Wooddale Ave advisory bike lanes to a combination of dedicated and "share the road" type bicycle facilities. The City would like the following questions answered:

1. Will the City be required to pay back the original federal funds if the advisory bike lanes along Wooddale Avenue are changed out to bicycle facilities as described below?
2. If this change does not affect federal funds, would additional federal funds be available for this change out? Given the proper variances and or design exemptions are obtained.

The current roadway is 32-feet wide from Valley View Rd to 56th St W and 36-feet wide from 56th St W to 50th St W. The proposed lane configuration for the southerly end is two 12-foot wide share the road travel lanes and an 8-foot wide parking lane. The proposed lane configuration for the northerly end is a 6-foot dedicated south bound bike lane, 11-foot wide southbound travel lane, a 11-foot wide share the road northbound travel lane, and an 8-foot wide parking lane.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me at 952-826-0443 or at [whoule@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:whoule@ci.edina.mn.us).

Sincerely,

Wayne D. Houle, PE  
Director of Engineering

C: Mike Anderson – Alliant Engineering

G:\PW\CENTRAL SVCS\ENG DIV\PROJECTS\CONTRACTS\2012\ENG 12-6 Bike Blvd (TLC)\FINAL DESIGN\State Aid Variance Request\20130325 WH-Edina to MNDOT.doc

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

7450 Metro Boulevard • Edina, Minnesota 55439  
[www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov) • 952-826-0371 • Fax 952-826-0392